

MINUTES

LENOIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 3, 2017

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners met in open session at 10:10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, in the Board of Commissioners' Main Meeting Room in the Lenoir County Courthouse at 130 S. Queen St., Kinston, NC.

Members present: Chairman Craig Hill, Vice-Chairman Linda Rouse-Sutton, Commissioners, Jackie Brown, Mac Daughety, and Reuben Davis.

Members Absent: Roland Best, and Eric Rouse

Also present were: Michael W. Jarman, County Manager, Joey R. Bryan, Assistant County Manager, Tracy Chestnutt, Finance Officer, Vickie Freeman King, Clerk to the Board, Robert Griffin, County Attorney, members of the general public and news media.

Chairman Hill called the meeting to order at approximately 10:10 a.m. Ms. Sutton offered the Invocation and Mr. Daughety led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Ms. Brown and a second by Mr. Daughety, to excuse Mr. Roland Best and Mr. Eric Rouse from the meeting.

Mr. Hill acknowledged and welcomed Mr. Rusty Hunt, President, Lenoir Community College to Lenoir County.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

Mr. Russell Rhodes, President, Neuse Sports Shop, stated during the time of Hurricane Matthew, several individuals were very instrumental in making things happen in the lives of others in Lenoir County. During that time, there were so many people that stood out within our community. Among those were two groups that he and YETI Corporation wanted to recognize for doing such a tremendous job. He presented the Lenoir County EMS Department and Lenoir County Sheriff Department with YETI Coolers and thanked them for their assistance during the hurricane. Mr. Russell stated the thank you'd should never end because each department continues to do an amazing job and service to the community.

Mr. Hill echoed Mr. Rhodes sentiments regarding the quality of service and performance both departments displayed, not only during Hurricane Matthew, but during the entire year as well. Mr. Hill stated it is certainly nice to see someone within the community demonstrating and showing their appreciation for the departments within County Government.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting: December 5, 2016.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS/RESOLUTIONS:

Item No. 2 was a Resolution Approving Presentation of Badge and Service Weapon to Retiring Lieutenant Jack Elwood Meadows. Sheriff Ingram mentioned Lieutenant Meadows was not available receive his badge and weapon. Sheriff Ingram stated Lieutenant Meadows began his law enforcement career with the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office on April 29, 1991. He has served in numerous capacities with the Sheriff's office. His capacities ranged from deputy sheriff, field training officer, special response team, patrol division sergeant and patrol division lieutenant. In his years of service, he proudly dedicated his adult life and career to arresting criminals who violated the law and working to provide safety for the citizens of Lenoir County. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 2 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 3 was a Resolution Approving Purchase Order for 15 In-Car Computers: Dell, Inc.: \$17,656.65. Sheriff Ingram stated The Lenoir County Sheriff's Office currently uses fleet vehicles equipped with in-car computers to assist deputies in their daily operations. The deputies use these computers to connect to many law enforcement networks, complete incident and arrest reports and complete other paperwork required of their positions. This has become a standard tool in all law enforcement vehicles who conduct patrol operations. The Lenoir County Sheriff's Office intends to purchase (15) Dell Latitude 15 3570 series laptop computers that are equipped with Microsoft Office package, wireless internet, backlit keyboards and in car charging systems. These computers cost \$1,177.11 each. Dell is currently the company chosen by MIS to provide computers for all other county departments and as such the Sheriff wishes to continue this relationship with the purchase of these laptops. The Sheriff will use civil process funds to purchase these computers. The Sheriff respectfully requests authorization to execute a purchase order with Dell, Inc. to acquire these laptops. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 3 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 4 was a Resolution Approving Mileage Reimbursement Rate for County Employees to Mirror the IRS Established Rate which will change from \$.54 to \$.53.5 per mile, Effective January 1, 2017. Mr. Joey Bryan, Assistant County Manager, stated Lenoir County has historically adjusted its mileage reimbursement rate for employees using their personal vehicles to the IRS established rate. In recent years, the IRS has increased and decreased the mileage rate and Lenoir County has responded accordingly. We are also asking that the Commissioners approve the County Rate to mirror the IRS Established Rate in all future fluctuations. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 4 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 5 was a Resolution Declaring Property as Surplus and Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property by Auction. Mr. Hal Oliver, Landfill Manager, stated the Lenoir County Solid Waste Department has four (4) pieces of equipment and nine (9) vehicles that have outlived their useful life. The vehicles are no longer of use to any County Department and there are no plans to put them back into service. County Administration is requesting the approval of the Board to sell the following equipment and vehicles by auction on GovDeals.com as soon as possible. Proceeds resulting from the sale, less any expenses incurred, will be appropriated to the Solid Waste Department. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 5 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 6 was a Resolution Authorizing Lenoir County Landfill to Execute a Purchase Order to Contract with Dean Jones. Mr. Hal Oliver, Landfill Manager, stated in order to control the vegetative growth on the Landfill grounds including ditches and waterways where possible, bush-hogging services are required annually. The majority of the work would involve the use of the Bush Hog. Dean Jones' 15-ft. Bush Hog would cover nearly twice the ground for the lowest price. Execution of this agreement will allow for the elimination of ongoing vegetative growth on the Landfill grounds. Three bids were submitted, and we chose Dean Jones who had the lowest cost. Upon a motion by Mr. Daughety and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 6 was unanimously approved.

Mr. Daughety asked if there was a cap once they reached a certain point or dollar amount? Mr. Jarman replied, there is not a cap however, there has been someone out there keeping it cut. They have been providing a lot of hours with a 4 or 5-foot bush hog. Part of what Mr. Oliver has done in his search has searched with someone that has a 14-foot bush hog with different operational practices and we think we would reduce those hours greatly and he will stay on top of those hours and see what will happen.

Item No. 7 was a Resolution Approving the Authorizing Lenoir County Landfill to Execute a Purchase Order to Contract with Timmy Murphy Home Improvements: \$3,800. Mr. Hal Oliver, Landfill Manager, stated the Scale House at the Landfill lost an enormous amount of shingles during Hurricane Matthew and as a result has received water damage. The new roof is needed in order to prevent further water damage to the building. Acceptance of the bid for a new roof on the Scale House at the Landfill will prevent further damage to the building, which will only worsen if not repaired. Although four (4) bids have been obtained for these repairs, Mr. Murphy's bid is the lowest and also the most detailed with a three (3) year guarantee. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 7 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 8 was a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Blanket Purchase Orders to the following Vendors for Yearly Maintenance.: \$13,000. Mr. Hal Oliver, Landfill Manager, stated Lenoir County Solid Waste Department has many roll-off containers in need of welding/repair. These repairs will hopefully avoid having to replace the containers.

Without these repairs to equipment and buildings, the Landfill cannot safely carry out regular routine work activities. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 8 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 9 was a Resolution Approving Advertising Contract with UNC Lenoir Health Care. Ms. Angie Greene, Transit Director, stated since July 1, 2007, Lenoir County Transportation has chosen to market the advertisements on the sides of its vans. UNC Lenoir Health Care is a tax-exempt organization that accepts private contributions to fund programs, services, and projects within the hospital and select community programs outside of the hospital that relate to the health and well-being of our community. UNC Lenoir Health Care is a not-for-profit hospital dedicated to the community it serves by offering quality healthcare. Concerned for the community in which they serve, UNC Lenoir Health Care offers many free educational programs, seminars and screenings. They have more than 100 physicians and offer a wide range of specialty services for the citizens of our community. Lenoir County Transit and UNC Lenoir Health Care are asking for the Lenoir County Board of Commissioners evaluation and approval of the placement of advertisements on eleven (11) LCT vans. Based on a \$100/mo. for the first advertisement and \$50/mo. for each additional advertisement by LCT. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Davis, Item No. 9 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 10 was a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Blanket Purchase Order to Auto Generator and Starter.: \$15,000. Ms. Angie Greene, Transit Director, stated since March 10, 2008, Lenoir County Transit began operations in-house. Lenoir County Transit utilize various companies for vehicle repairs. Auto Generator and Starter is the primary vehicle maintenance provider for Lenoir County Transit. Auto Generator and Starter provides services to Lenoir County Transit for the maintenance and repair of 18 vehicles. Lenoir County Transit had unforeseen vehicle repair cost on the replacement of two (2) transmissions this fiscal year that has used a big portion of the existing purchase order to Auto Generator and Starter. Lenoir County Transit is requesting approval by the Lenoir County Board of Commissioners to increase the existing purchase order to Auto Generator and Starter in the amount of \$15,000 to cover the costs of vehicle maintenance and repairs. Upon a motion by Mr. Davis and a second by Ms. Sutton, Item No. 10 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 11 was a Resolution Approving Purchase Order for Replacement Vehicle: Dodge Minivan: \$41,834. Ms. Angie Greene, Transit Director, stated on October 13, 2016, Lenoir County Transit minivan VIN#: 2C7WDGBG2FR634249 was involved in an accident. The insurance company took possession of the vehicle and issued a check to Lenoir County in the amount of \$44,708. It has also been difficult to accomplish preventive and unscheduled maintenance for the fleet when short by one vehicle. The purchase price for a like vehicle with one wheelchair station is \$41,834 from Ilderton Conversion Company. If a replacement vehicle is not purchased, the 90% federal and state share of the insurance payment must be returned to NCDOT/PTD.. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 11 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 12. was a Resolution Authorizing a Budget Amendment to the 2012 CDBG Scattered Site Housing Project Grant (12-C-2422). Mr. David Harris, CDBG Project Manager, stated Lenoir County was awarded \$225,000 for the 2012 CDBG Scattered Site Housing Project (12-C-2422) on April 15, 2013. The NC Rural Economic Development Division (REDD) has approved the use of the Scattered Site funds to provide replacement housing assistance for a low-income family in the 2011 CDBG-Catalyst Project on Spring Drive adjacent to LaGrange. All of the remaining Scattered Site funds will be used to pay for the replacement house. Funds are available in the 2012 CDBG Scattered Site Housing Project budget to complete the replacement house on Spring Drive. The Budget Amendment transfers remaining administration funds to the rehabilitation line-item to provide for payment of the replacement housing costs. After approval of the Budget Amendment, it will be submitted to REDD for informational purposes to update the State's Grant Project budget. No approval from REDD is required because the amendment is less than 10% of the 2012 CDBG Scattered Site Housing Grant amount. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 12 was unanimously approved.

Item No. 13. was a Resolution Approving Citizens to Boards, Commissions, Etc. Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety, Item No. 13 was unanimously approved for Gary Alphin's appointment to the Lenoir County Economic Development Board and since this is the first appearance for Mr. Hunt no action is needed at this time.

Mr. Hill thanked the citizens of Lenoir County for their willingness to serve on the different boards and committees. He mentioned the availabilities are often posted on the Lenoir County web page. He encouraged citizens to go and look for opportunities to serve in our communities as they look to keep the boards more diverse.

Item No. 14 was items from the county manager Mike Jarman, Mr. Jarman stated the attached were the normal, planning and inspections reports, the transit reports, as usual. You will also find the financial report as well. It is a different format than what you have been seeing in the past and you will receive it on a monthly basis. If you need more information or desire to become more familiar with it, please feel free to stop by the office and speak with Ms. Chestnutt or himself so that you will have a better understanding of the numbers. Since it is 2017, we will have the normal budget meetings coming up. Please keep in mind that the re-evaluation is effective January 1, 2017. We will be coming back and have Mr. Parrish let you know the notices of value of change and give you some warning of the dates to expect your telephones to ring regarding the changes happening as they prepare to move forward with the budget. We feel very positive about that outlook even in the face of the recession and what we have. However, it will present some challenges as well as opportunities for all of us.

Ms. Sutton stated as a liaison of Lenoir Community College, she would like for Dr. Hunt to come forward and speak to the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Sutton stated Dr. Hunt had a very smooth transition and she felt like he was very well received.

Dr. Hunt stated he really appreciates the citizens in general. He and his wife have been thrilled with the reception they have received. They are residents of Lenoir County and have purchased a home in LaGrange, and they have found a church home that they really enjoy. Dr. Hunt stated he took the first 90 days to learn about the community in which he now serves. They are currently working on the strategic planning updates this month and will be inviting the Board in the future to be a part of that. Dr. Hunt thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Mr. Hill stated that due to the current situation with Mr. Best, the Board would need to select another person to attend the 2017 Legislative Goals Conference and to be the voting delegate for Lenoir County. Mr. Hill will be attending the conference in the place of Mr. Best. Mr. Hill reminded the Board to keep Mr. Best in their thoughts and prayers as he will be going through surgery within the next couple of days.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety a closed session was entered into at approximately 10:35 a.m. with the following cited: Number Four (4): To discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by Lenoir County.

OPEN SESSION

Upon a motion by Ms. Sutton and a second by Mr. Daughety and unanimous approval, the Board moved out of closed session at approximately 10:59 a.m. The meeting re-convened in open session at approximately 11:00 a.m. Mr. Hill stated the Board went into closed session to discuss a potential industry in Lenoir County.

Mr. Mark Pope, Economic Development Director, stated the Social Beverage Company, LLC will locate in Kinston, Lenoir County. The Social Beverage Company, LLC has announced a new business venture with a capital investment of at least \$2,119,667 over the next three (3) years, acquiring real property and installing non-depreciated machinery and equipment and creating thirty-four (34) full time jobs over the next two years with employer benefits in Lenoir County. The incentive grant is performance-based and will be distributed based upon the actual goals achieved and prorated if those goals are not met. The grant will be a total of \$29,544.34 and paid over a three (3) year period. Their performance will be reported to the Board on annual basis. Upon a motion made by Mr. Davis and a second by Mr. Daughety, the Resolution Approving Economic Development Grant Agreement: The Social Beverage Company, LLC in the amount of \$29,544.34 was approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Vickie F. King
Clerk to the Board

Joey R. Bryan
Assistant County Manager